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MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO

SUN- LESS SETS

Musicians delight themselves, as well as audience, in annual twilight concert

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.
Chevron staff

Watching the horizon, Marine Band San Diego musicians waited for daylight to fade. And as night approached, a Saturday crowd met them with cheers.

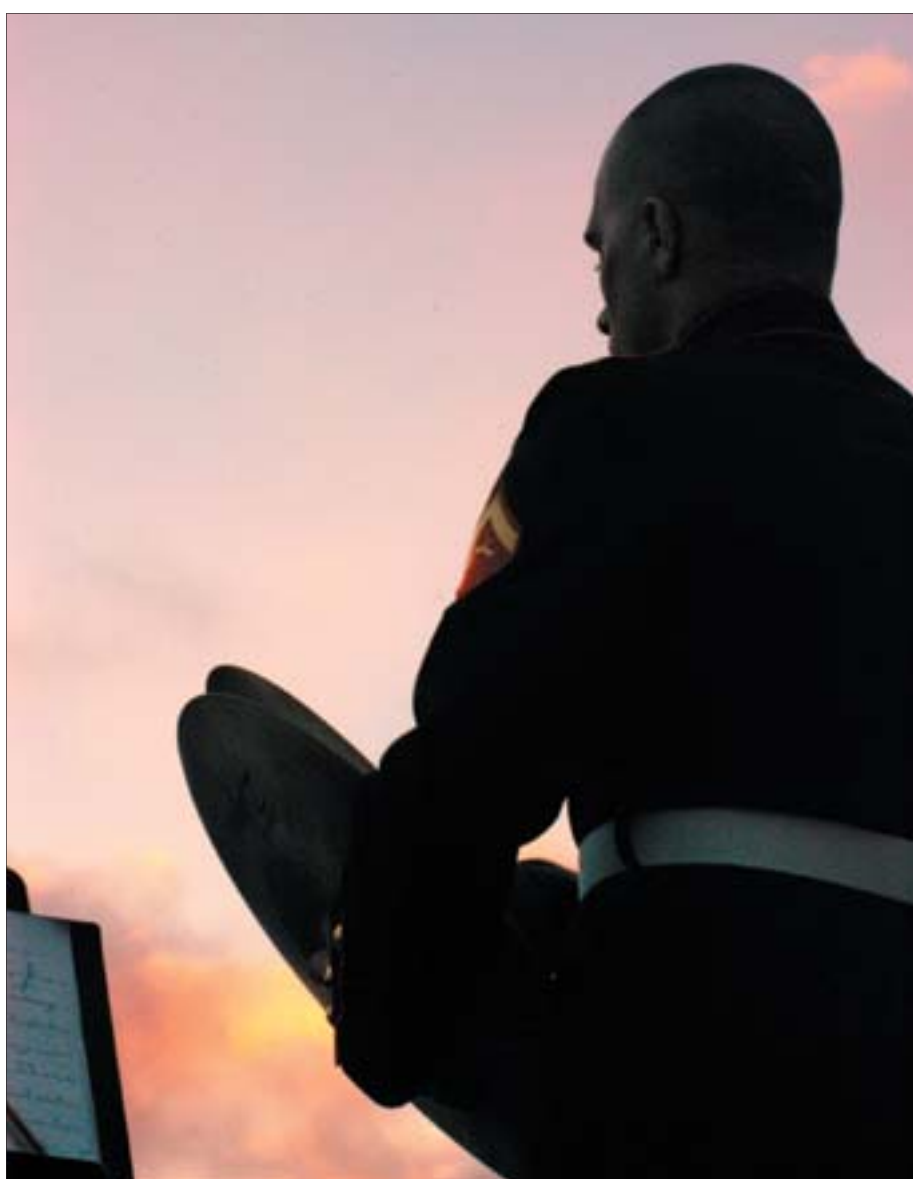
The artisans marched on stage for the Summer Sunset Concert here July 10 at Building 31's west side. Every year, the musicians bask in this opportunity to show off more than just marching music, which they perform nearly every week.

"Instead of marching on the grinder, we get to be seated on the stage playing what we love," said Cpl. Ashley L. Unfried. Normally a piccolo player, Unfried played flute in the concert.

SEE **Band**, pg. 7



(Left) A trumpeting Sgt. Hugh E. Wurts from Marine Band San Diego performs during the Summer Sunset Concert here Saturday. (Below) Lance Cpl. Michael A. Thorson, percussionist, softly clashes his cymbals.



Colleges give credit for more MECEP prep courses

BY CPL. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT
Chevron staff

The Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program Preparatory School here recently expanded the number of courses for which Marines can receive college credits from two to six, according to school director Lt. Col. Michael I. Moffett.

Moffett said the expansion progress is attributed to the growing relationship between the Marine Corps and fully accredited institutions such as Plymouth State University and New Hampshire Technical Institute.

"This credit-granting relationship is an extremely important development that can expedite the college careers of our MECEP mustangs, while enhancing the summer prep school operation at MCRD," said Moffett.

MECEP is an officer program that offers enlisted men and women the chance to earn college degrees as full-time students before earning officer candidacy. It begins with MECEP Prep, and the expanded accreditation at the school has many students taking advantage.

"At least half of our MECEP students this summer have requested and registered for college credit through the partnerships MECEP is developing with New Hampshire Technical Institute and Plymouth State University," said Moffett. "Over 50 students have requested credit in at least one course this session, in some cases for a total of 13 credits equivalent to a full semester's worth of credits."

The additional college credits from MECEP Prep schooling means Marines can attain degrees and get back in uniform sooner, which can satisfy Marines and the Marine Corps.

"The program is awesome because it allows us to become Marine Corps officers quicker," said MECEP Prep student Sgt. David S. Taylor. "It helps get us ahead of the game."

War hero recognized at Latino conference

BY SGT. JIMMIE PERKINS
Marine Corps Recruiting Command

A young, decorated Marine received the 2004 Latino Heroes and Heritage Award during the Tribute to Latino Heroes Luncheon June 29 at this year's National Council of La Raza Conference in Phoenix.

During the luncheon, Lance Cpl. Joseph Perez received special recognition for his courage in Operation Iraqi Freedom. More than 2,500 attendees honored Hispanics who have served or who are currently serving in U.S. armed forces.

"Today we recognize a young man who under the



Lance Cpl.
Joseph Perez

most stressful of circumstances, forgot about himself and worked simply for the welfare of his fellow Marines," said Maj. Gen. Christopher Cortez, Marine Corps Recruiting Command commanding general.

For his heroic actions while pushing northward to Baghdad April 4, 2003, Perez received the Navy Cross, the naval services' second highest award for heroism.

Perez, a Marine from 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines of the 1st Marine Division, was patrolling on point as men in his platoon worked to clear one of the main north-south roads through southern Iraq.

Coming under intense fire as the most exposed

SEE **Hero**, pg. 9



**SEW THIS ON,
LANCE
CORPORAL.**

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**DI DEVELOPS
COMPASSION
WHILE
REHABILITATING
RECRUITS**

9



**CG'S CUP
SOFTBALL
WINNER**

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Lt. Col. Michael I. Moffett, MECEP Prep School director, (left) joins the students who received the Col. Nate Smith Memorial Scholarship during the Depot Historical Society's quarterly breakfast Tuesday. The recipients are, from left, Sgt. David S. Taylor, Sgt. Scott A. Stewart and Staff Sgt. Eric J. Mattison. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron

Three MECEP Marines receive scholarships

BY PAT HAWKINS
Contributing writer

The Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum Historical Society and Janet M. Smith, the widow of retired Col. Nathan Smith, joined together to present three \$500 scholarships to members of the Depot community. These awards were presented at the historical society's quarterly breakfast Tuesday. Retired Lt. Col. C.T. Anthony, incoming president of the society, said "All three of these young men have demonstrated exceptional ability and dedication to the Corps and their community." Retired Maj. Gen. Donald J. Fulham,

current president of the society, and Smith presented the awards. Staff Sgt. Eric J. Mattison, Sgt. Scott A. Stewart and Sgt. David S. Taylor were awarded the Col. Nate Smith Memorial Scholarship based on their academic achievements and goals, as well as their contributions to their community and their families. All three awardees attend or have been accepted into the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program. Mattison is slated to attend classes at the University of Arizona during the fall semester. Taylor will attend the University of Utah when he graduates from MECEP. Stewart will attend Pennsylvania State University in the fall.

The scholarship board made up of retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 James C. Carroll, retired Navy Cmdr. Victor H. Krulak Jr., and David R. Ayers, offered the scholarship to active duty Marines assigned to the Depot or Western Recruiting Region and to their dependants. Eligible applicants had to currently be enrolled in school or accepted at an accredited college or university. Scholarship applicants sent in biographical sheets and wrote essays describing their community and family involvement. This is the second year these awards were presented and there are plans to expand this program in the future.



RTR XO RETIRES

Lt. Col. William F. Walsh retired from the Marine Corps and as executive officer of Recruit Training Regiment during the Friday Morning Colors Ceremony here July 9. Depot Commanding General Brig. Gen. John M. Paxton Jr. awarded Walsh the Meritorious Service Medal, fifth award, during the ceremony. He plans on taking his wife and one of his daughters with him to Norfolk, Va., where he has accepted a job in the civilian sector. Lt. Col. Charles E. Owens will take his place as RTR XO. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron



Coast Guard Cmdr. Mark S. Ogle

Coast Guard Cmdr. Mark S. Ogle relieved Cmdr. Pat DeQuattro as commanding officer of the Coast Guard's Pacific Tactical Law Enforcement Team during a change-of-command ceremony July 9 at the Depot Boathouse. Ogle's previous assignment was in Washington, D.C., as the executive assistant of operations capability. There he assisted with the Coast Guard's transition to the Department of Homeland Security and managed several national-level operations. DeQuattro, after three years as the team's commanding officer, will be assigned as a Coast Guard Congressional Fellow on the U.S. House of Representative's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources in Washington, D.C.



Coast Guard Cmdr. Pat DeQuattro speaks before relinquishing command of Pacific Tactical Law Enforcement Team here to Cmdr. Mark S. Ogle July 9 at the Depot Boathouse. Cpl. Shawn M. Toussaint/Chevron

Are you within regulations? Everyone cares

STAFF SGT. JESUS A. LORA
Community Relations/Media Chief

Long hair, not shaving, clothes three sizes too big and baseball caps turned around like the rap singer Eminem should be the normal liberty attire for all Marine Corps installations. Heck, let's don and clear a couple of earrings, use profanity in public places and basically let our standards drop to the wayside. After all, does anybody really care or even notice?

Here at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Marines and sailors do care and take pride in appearance. Two hundred twenty eight years have set the high standards that all Marines hold true. Assisting this honored tradition is a uniform regulation and grooming standard policy that sets the guidance to both military and civilian personnel assigned to the depot.

Unfortunately, a few Marines fall short of the policy and use their own imaginary order. "Yes, some do take the regulation out of context and do what they want," said Staff Sgt. Christina M. Reliford, Quality Assurance Agent, Duncan Hall, here. The current order for Uniform Regulations and Grooming Standards is

Depot Order 1020.25E. The order covers uniforms, uniform standards, personal appearance, civilian clothing, athletic apparel and regulations when operating a motorized moped or motorcycle. Pride is constant and should be practiced on duty and while on liberty. The depot draws more than 90,000 visitors each year so the question here is, does any one really care or notice what Marines look like?

"Civilians expect Marines to be top notch and anything less is a discredit to the Marine Corps," said Reliford. The appearance of a Marine in uniform is a twentieth century masterpiece. Michelangelo would have been proud to paint a Marine.

The battle with Marines is not faced in the darkness of a trench or the wet jungles in some foreign land; this war has surfaced around the globe. Marines in liberty status sporting unauthorized civilian attire or general appearance needs to be addressed on the spot.

When a Marine is in the Mess hall on a glorious Sunday morning, and a Bic razor didn't scrape the Marine's mug, something is wrong. The same for the Marine walking around the Depot with baggy clothes and a poor appearance should be stopped and questioned.

The shame for some Marines that lower the standard is the fault of a few. I wonder how many Marines take the time

and correct a bad situation with Marines and sailors? Better yet, how many Marines see the violations and say nothing?

A poll was conducted here at MCRD. I set my front sight tip on unsuspecting Marines that followed uniform guidelines and Marines that followed their own version.

Here are some examples of the quotes, comments and saved rounds that were taken from those interviews.

The following Marine had a shirt below his waist, no belt and baggy pants:

"I know what to wear and how to wear it, I don't need a regulation to explain to me the procedures of my wardrobe, I learned all that in boot camp," said a lance corporal from Camp Pendleton.

The following Marine had a long shirt unbuttoned, baggy pants and no belt:

"I'm aware of the policy and try to stay away from Marine Corps installations because of it," said a private first class from MCRD. "I like to feel comfortable when I go out and some of our policies are too strict."

The following Marine was within base policy:

"It's not hard to climb out of the rack and adhere to simple basic rules especially if you are visiting a Marine base," said a corporal from MCRD. "It's a real shame seeing the few that shame our Marine Corps image with such stupid things like not dressing right."

The following Marine did not have a

fresh shave while in the exchange, but was in regulation as far as his civilian attire:

"I know I hadn't shaved this morning," said a lance corporal from MCRD. "I jumped out of the rack and went to the mess hall before it closed. I didn't want to miss chow, so I just blew it off. I see it once in awhile in the mess hall so I thought I could get away with it."

Recently at a recruit graduation, three Marines had two days of growth on their faces:

"I just wanted to see my buddy graduate. I knew I had to shave, but I didn't want to miss his big day," said a Camp Pendleton Marine. One Marine gave no answer, but blamed himself for his laziness.

The interviews that were conducted above proved an ignorance and laziness of our Corps referring to the old fashion term "the 10 percent."

Marines are rewriting history upon foreign lands, and the ten percent that are here in garrison are failing in the easiest of missions.

The next time a Marine is out of regulation, stop and correct the individual. Take the time and reflect your pride. Someone is always watching and everyone really cares.

Note: The Marines above were corrected and ordered to correct their deficiencies. The depot order P1020.25E is currently being revised.



SICK 'EM, JACK.

The Depot's accomplished artist, Sgt. Jack Carrillo - known for his sketches and watercolor works from Operation Iraqi Freedom - painted this detailed bulldog before leaving the Depot for the Military Motion Media Studies Program at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY. Some of Carrillo's works still hang in the command museum and Quarters One here.

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SALUTING CANNONS Lance Cpl. Jerry Jenkins, Headquarters and Service Bn., charges one of three saluting cannons during a July 7 practice volley for Marine Band San Diego's Summer Sunset Concert, July 10. Masked in smoke on another cannon is Cpl. Justin Johnson of Communications and Information Systems Department. Staff Sgt. Scott Dunn/Chevron

Extreme Makeover

ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition is currently seeking a military person who owns a house in the Southern California area, who has spent extraordinary amounts of time away from their family because they have been defending our country, who may have been injured going above and beyond the call of duty by helping others, and has absolutely no time or resources to make home improvements. The show is seeking a Marine or service member who has a compelling story and is an upstanding member of the community. If you have any information about possible candidates please call Staff Sgt. Sergio Jimenez, (310) 235-7272 or fax (310) 235-7274 or write to Public Affairs Chief, Marine Corps Motion Picture & TV Liaison Office, 10880 Wilshire Blvd Suite 1230, Los Angeles, Calif., 90024.

Operation Homecoming

Operation Homecoming will run through Veteran's Day, allowing returning service members and up to four direct dependents, a one-time, free entry to one of the Sea World, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks. The offer provides for one visit to one park only. Proof of deployment or overseas service is required along with a valid Department of Defense identification and completed application form. Application forms will be available on-line and at park front gates.

Women Marines Association biennial convention

The Women Marines Association will host their biennial convention Sept. 4-8 at the Westin Horton Plaza, 910 Broadway Circle, San Diego. Registration information can be obtained from local WMA chapters, through the WMA Web site at www.womenmarines.org or by contacting sgtnmajjudge@cox.net. Membership in WMA is open to all women serving or having served honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps or the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Additional information is available by calling 1-888-525-1943.

Designated Driver volunteers needed

The Designated Drivers Association is looking for volunteers. Volunteers can meet new people, earn extra money in tips, and make a difference. Drunk drivers kill almost 17,000 Americans and injure over 700,000 each year. Volunteering for the Designated Drivers Association is a pro-active way to get involved in the community. Volunteers must be at least 18 and have a valid driver's license and insurance. For more information, visit www.ddasd.org or call (866) 373-7233.

Naval Intelligence Essay Contest

The U.S. Naval Institute, the Naval Intelligence Foundation, and the Naval Intelligence Professionals are sponsoring the annual Naval Intelligence Essay Contest. This contest is designed to encourage individuals interested in naval or maritime intelligence to engage in critical thinking about the field. The deadline for submissions is Aug. 1, and the winning essay will be published in the February 2005 issue of Proceedings Magazine. The contest is open to any military or civilian author. The maximum length is 3,500 words. The winner will receive a \$1,000 cash prize, a five-year membership in the Naval Intelligence Professionals, one to three Naval Institute Press books and a one-year membership in the Naval Institute. All entries should be submitted to: Naval Intelligence Essay Contest, Naval Intelligence Professionals, P.O. Box 9324, McLean, VA 22102-0324. Entries submitted electronically should be sent to navintproessays@aol.com.

Free ride on the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway

Active and retired military personnel can ride the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway for free during the month of July. Up to six of a service member's guests can also ride "the world's largest rotating tramcar" for 25 percent off regular tram admission price. For more infor-

mation, call (888) 515-8726, or log on to www.pstramway.com.

NCOA Job Fair

The Noncommissioned Officers Association is hosting a Job Fair July 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in conjunction with United Associations Group, Inc. and MilitaryHire.com. The fair, which will take place at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, is open to all current and former military as well as the public. NCOA membership is not required. For more information, contact Artealia Gilliard of the Veteran's Employment Assistance Program at (800) 662-2620 ext. 288 or via e-mail at agilliard@ncoausa.org. Job seekers may also visit the NCOA Web site at www.ncoausa.org for more information and a list of companies and updates on the job fair.

USMC Parents' Conference

The first National USMC Parents' Conference, "Standing in the Gap," will take place July 30 through Aug. 1 in Indianapolis. The purpose of the conference is to help parents of Marines know their roles in supporting their children through the Corps. For more information on the conference, call Cathy Schoon at (260)

636-3102 or contact her via e-mail at schoon@ligtel.com.

Chosen Few banquet

The Montford Point Marine Association San Diego Chapter - 12 will hold the Chosen Few Banquet Aug. 28 from 6 to 10 p.m. at the 32nd Street Naval Station. For more information, contact Sam Bagwell at (619) 524-6865.

Iraqi-culture classes available

The Iraqi community of San Diego would like to show their appreciation to service members heading to Iraq. The community is available to set up a question and answer session on the Iraqi culture and people for service members deploying to Iraq. For more information on the Iraqi Community of San Diego, contact Camille Al-Attia at (619) 417-3912 or via e-mail at catallia@yahoo.com.

Submit possible briefs to the Chevron via e-mail to guevaraer@mcrdsd.usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards and regulations of the U.S. Government.



EDUCATORS WORKSHOP Pvt. Michael Harris, Company A, jots down his mailing address for Marcia Tombasky, a high school counselor from Odessa, Texas, after lunch at Duncan Hall Tuesday. Tombasky visited the Depot during an educators workshop with Recruiting Stations Albuquerque and Fort Worth. Twelve times a year, the Depot hosts educators from the Western Recruiting Region to better inform them about the Marine Corps. Sgt. Ryan Smith/Chevron

'Military One Source' solves family, service member problems

BY RUDI WILLIAMS
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department recently established a "one-stop" place to go whenever service members or family members need assistance with any kind of problem. It's called Military One Source, and it is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, according to John M. Molino, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy. "Military One Source is a revolutionary augmentation to the family services we currently have on military installations around the world," Molino explained during an interview with the Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service. Each service had its own One Source program, and now DoD is bringing them together and calling it Military One Source, Molino noted.

He noted that it is intended to complement assistance offered to military families by the services. Molino said Military One Source "leverages technology and enables DoD to provide assistance to families and service members via the Internet or a toll-free telephone number."

The services include everything from common, everyday difficulties that might face a family to life's most complicated situations, he noted.

Molino said Military One Source is available 24 hours a day around the country and around the world. "It's a remarkable way to ... step forward into a new generation of providing services," he said. "It's a place where no matter when that situation occurs, the military family member or service member could make a phone call or go on the Internet and begin to get some help."

The military services provide a lot of family services on installations, but Molino pointed out that about two-thirds of military families live off base.

"The people who are off the installation tend to be the most junior folks," he added.

"They may not have the financial resources to have two cars, or to get themselves back and forth to the installations to get those services," Molino continued. "So what One Source does is provide the opportunity to make that phone call and let us bring the services, literally, figuratively and electronically, to your home."

When someone calls Military One Source for help, the person answering the phone has at least a master's degree in social work or some kind of counseling service, Molino said. "That person is trained specifically to deal with military issues - issues that complicate military life. So they're very sensitive to what you ask," he said.

"Some people think they're the only people who ever experienced whatever their problem is, and, of course, they're not," Molino emphasized. "Most everyone goes through different phases and different cycles."

The voice on the other end doesn't make judgments about situations, he noted.

"They're there to listen to what you have to say, evaluate it, and give you the beginnings of an answer or actually the answer to your question," Molino said.

Military One Source runs the gamut of situations: from needing a plumber in the middle of the night to fix a broken pipe, to needing veterinary service for a sick dog. It also handles things like helping families new to an area find childcare, or information about the school system, summer jobs - whatever is needed.

"One Source can get all that information and provide it to you in a most efficient manner, whether it be electronically or getting back to you on the telephone," Molino said.

People shouldn't be afraid or embarrassed to seek help from Military One Source, he said, but he acknowledged some people may be reluctant to ask for help. "You try to convince people that the person at the other end of the phone isn't going to be judgmental about your situation," he said.



Toll-free telephone
from the United States

(800) 342-9647

Worldwide Web
militaryonesource.com

Word of mouth is the best way to get the word out about Military One Source within a unit, he noted. For example, Molino said, "If I'd made a phone call and had a positive experience, I can tell you about it. I can say, 'You know, I tried One Source one time, and it worked for me. You ought to give it a shot.'"

"Asking for help isn't a sign of weakness; it's really a sign of being smart - it's a sign of smartness."

What bothers Molino is when people say they don't need help from Military One Source because of their unit assignment. "I heard that in some units they say, 'We're in an Army Ranger unit,' (or) 'We're in a Navy SEAL unit, and we don't need that kind of support,'" Molino said. "That's utter nonsense. If the pipe breaks in the middle of the night in the home of a Navy SEAL, you need a plumber just as badly as somebody else."

"When you figure out that this is a great resource that provides help, you ought take advantage of it."

He pointed out when service members are deployed, they can put their minds at ease knowing that if their family needs help, it's only a phone call away.

Putting himself in that position, Molino said, "I would find it very comfortable to know that my family back home has that option, that service available. And they don't have to wait for the family center to open. They don't have to find a way to get to the family center. My wife

wouldn't have to find a way to have the children taken care of.

"We can do things instantly, any time of the day or night. If there's a language problem, One Source is able to provide services in more than 100 languages, usually in less than a minute's delay."

Military One Source also can be helpful to active duty service members. They don't have to take time off from work or training to solve a problem. All they have to do is call Military One Source, Molino noted.

He emphasized that Military One Source counseling service isn't mental health counseling, or counseling for an illness that might be burdening somebody.

"We have a health-care system that provides that service," he noted. "This is a different kind of counseling. It's for folks that experience difficulties day to day. Let's say a service member has been deployed. The family has adjusted to his or her absence. Somebody is walking the dog, taking out the garbage. When he comes back, he has to fit back into the family. Others had performed those roles that he traditionally performed. Sometimes that creates friction."

All families have some degree of difficulty, and most of them manage to work through the problem. But sometimes they need a little assistance, and one toll-free phone call can get them that kind of counseling, Molino said.

Military Once Source also is available to National Guardsmen and reservists being called to active duty for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

"We found that it works as well for guardsmen and reservists, especially because they tend not to be close to military installations," Molino said. "They can get that kind of support through the armory. The Guard and Reserve components initially went in a different direction with a different provider. Then they realized that One Source actually was the gold standard, and they shifted over after about six months."

DoD receives rave reviews from "Military One Source" users

BY RUDI WILLIAMS
American Forces Press Service

"Phenomenal" is what a senior defense official calls feedback the Defense Department is getting from people who use the Military One Source program to help solve problems, no matter how big, how small or how complicated.

John Molino, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy said he is pleased with the responses his office receives from people who use Military One Source.

HERE ARE A FEW OF THOSE COMMENTS:

A letter from "Thank You!!" read, "The only thing I can say about this service is that IT IS GREAT! I will definitely use the service again and will recommend it to other military families in my situation. With my husband deployed for nine months in Kuwait, and an impending move, your quick answers and advice were my only port in a storm."

A Marine Corps first sergeant wrote: "I went to the brief last week in Pennsylvania. When I returned I gave my staff of 13 a list of problems/situations; some real, some not; to take to MCCC (Marine Corps Community Services) One Source. A few of them called One Source, a few researched themselves through the Web site, and a few used e-mail, such as myself.

"All of them had nothing but good to say about this program/resource," the first sergeant continued. "Even the Marines who usually have nothing good to say. They all reported extremely professional and quick service. I did this for their own good, but will use it as a proof during our upcoming pre-deployment brief/family day.

Thank you for the brief and the hard work."

The wife of an Army officer wrote: "I just wanted to let you know that as a military wife, and as an officer's wife, I was very, very happy. I was beyond happy because this was done quickly and it was something I could do for myself in the civilian sector and I didn't need to answer any unnecessary questions."

She went on to say that One Source provided her with immediate information and immediate assistance. "I am completely and utterly grateful for that," the wife wrote. "Thank you so very much. You all do a wonderful job. This was a great gift for me."

A soldier expressed his appreciation for One Source this way: "I used Army One Source service to find a reputable mechanic. I think it's a great resource to help military personnel. It really helps them to get assimilated into the community without having to do a lot of research beforehand." He added that he sees it as a good resource for people who have just arrived at a new duty station.

"It helps them to get to know the community, just like the other people who have lived there so long who already know of the good and bad places," the soldier continued. "Keep it up! I will definitely give this number out to my troops; I think it's a great resource."

An Air Force spouse expressed gratitude for the quick responses she received about her problem. "The follow-up phone calls were terrific," she wrote. "Before I was sent material, a representative called me to ensure that I was sent exactly what I needed. I also received a phone call to ensure I was satisfied with the materials I received."

An Army spouse wrote: "I really like the warmth

and empathy of the woman on the other end. It was hard for me to even reach out for help. To not have a rejecting or condemning, judgmental voice was awesome. That made me want to pursue getting the help that we desperately needed. So thank you again for whoever that was. They were really warm, friendly and understanding."

A Marine Corps spouse said she sincerely appreciated the response time, the general care, the understanding and the hard work. "If my consultant did not know something, he would work on it until he found the answer," she said. "I appreciate that type of dedication and response."

She pointed out that it's hard for families and loved ones left behind when Marines are deployed. "Having this type of service to help me was a true blessing, and my consultant was truly a marvel," she continued. "Thank you for giving me and all the families I am in contact with, somewhere we can go to get answers."

An Hawaii-based Navy chief petty officer wrote: "The service was excellent. The rep that I spoke with was very professional and very expeditious in helping me with my need for something. I completed a form per the Navy's instructions, but with no knowledge as to how to forward them. She was able to get the information to me in a rapid rate that has actually saved me countless hours of time and energy. Again, I want to give her a Bravo Zulu, as we say in the Navy, and a job well done."

A Navy recruiter wrote: "I thought the consultant was extremely helpful for me in a two-fold manner, both by pointing out what could be done and couldn't be done, but most of all she listened, which was probably the MOST helpful thing."



Warrant Officer Edward M. Hayes, Marine Band San Diego officer in charge, center, waits to take the conductor's podium. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron photos

Sunset

S A T I S F A C T I O N

Band, from pg. 1

Almost every Friday, graduating recruits march across Shepherd Field to the steady beat of Marine Band San Diego. Special annual events like the sunset concert give the Marines a major lift from the unvarying John Phillips Sousa tunes at graduations.

“One of the biggest differences was being able to use expression in the music,” Unfried said.

These Marines are proficient and experienced in their chosen instruments, and they have met strict qualifications to perform among the Corps’ ranks, according to Unfried. Showcased in this concert are the skills that got the players into the band.

“This is an annual event that takes a lot of hard work,” said the principle tympanist Cpl. Roy Fonseca. “The long hours of setup and teardown are worth the payoff – the response from the crowd and all the smiles.”

The concert took a month of preparation, and the band spent roughly 20 hours rehearsing and fine-tuning a week before showtime. They also had a sort of dress rehearsal at an In-

dependence Day concert in Escondido, Calif., according to Unfried.

In addition to preparing music, the band’s loading crew of 14 Marines – who are also musicians – spent more than six hours assembling and disassembling the stage, according to Fonseca, the loading crew’s noncommissioned officer-in-charge. He said the physical labor brought a good-looking show and a rewarding outcome.

Fonseca admitted the show would not have been possible without help from other Depot Marines, particularly from the provost marshal’s office, G-3 operations, the Combat Visual Information Center, the armor guard and the color guard.

Though the sunset concert is a special and valued occasion, band members said they appreciate all their performances and enjoy playing for anyone and everyone.

“The warrant officer always says,” said Fonseca, referring to band officer Warrant Officer Edward M. Hayes. “The most important job is the next one.”



Marine Band San Diego’s Sgt. Jason A. Mercado drums lightly, keeping beat with Sgt. Charles H. Harbison who plucks his bass guitar. Their ensemble performed at a Quarters One reception before the concert for Commanding General Brig. Gen. John M. Paxton Jr. and guests. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron



Trumpeters play John Philip Sousa’s “Semper Fidelis.”



More than 700 recruits from Company A and Company M, and some from Special Training Company, gathered on the lawn behind the general audience.



Principle tympanist Cpl. Roy Fonseca, in unison with other band members, rocks his arm and sings during the band’s rendition of “Song of the Marines.”

FROM AN
ARMY OF ONE, TO
ONE OF THE FEW

REBOOT



Lance Cpl. Ricardo A. Dixon served 11 active duty years in the U.S. Army. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara/Chevron

Uprooted Army Ranger restarts in Marine Corps

BY CPL. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT
Chevron staff

As a staff noncommissioned officer in an elite U.S. Army infantry outfit, Ricardo A. Dixon served until lack of citizenship status forced him into the reserves.

A 2001 U.S. law limited immigrants without American citizenship to eight years active duty service eligibility. However, when Congress passed the Armed Forces Naturalization Act of 2003, Dixon, a native Panamanian, went to find out if he could become an active duty soldier once again.

According to Dixon, Army officials wanted him to wait six to eight months for a "pay-grade determination waiver" to process. As a result, he traded 11 years in the Army, three ranks, and several thousand dollars in pay to start all over again in the U.S. Marine Corps. He couldn't wait to start serving his country again.

"He was motivated and a little ticked off," said recruiter Staff Sgt. L.R. Ratcliff, Recruiting Substation Lake County, Ill., about the first time he met Dixon.

"I was going to join something," said Dixon. "Actually, I wanted to join the Corps in 1993. I liked their reputation for being the best. Even though I was part of the Army's best, I always had something in the back of my head that kept me wondering how things would've been if I had joined the Marine Corps. This was my opportunity to prove to myself and my family that I could do this."

Soon after Dixon and Ratcliff first met, the two bonded and began working to get the former Army infantryman into the active duty ranks of the Marine Corps.

"We had a lot in common," said Ratcliff. "We are both married to Japanese women, we both got married on our birthday, and we both have a burning desire to belong to something that is greater than ourselves. When he started talking about his desire to serve this country, it fired me up. I wanted to do everything in my power to make it happen."

On April 5, 2004, it happened. Dixon swore in to serve, and he was on his way to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Shortly after his arrival aboard the Depot, Dixon was assigned to Platoon 3077, Company M. His drill instructors immediately recognized his ability to lead, and they assigned him the platoon guide position.

"He showed the ability to break down things to the other recruits and help them along the way," said senior drill instructor Staff Sgt. Arthur M. Arebalo, Platoon 3077, Company M. "Because of his military experience, the other recruits looked up to him and went to him for guidance."

After leading his platoon all the way to the final weeks of training, Dixon appeared before a series honor man board in which he won, earning his current lance corporal rank.

"I am humbled; being named series honor man is a great honor," said Dixon. "But an even greater honor is being allowed to serve as a member of the world's best military service."

DI duty is hard

Though it might be understated, one detaching drill instructor knows just how demanding this duty can be.

BY LANCE CPL. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.
Chevron staff

"This is the hardest thing I have ever done," Staff Sgt. Javier Lozano said about being a drill instructor, one who issues challenges and guides recruits through Marine Corps boot camp.

Now, after many trials and learning experiences, his three-year DI duty tour secures.

"Drill instructors are demanding of each other," said the 28-year-old Company M senior drill instructor. "I learned my first cycle you have to have thick skin. Listen and learn. No drill instructor should come here thinking he knows everything."

Equipped with this knowledge, Lozano learned how to become a good staff noncommissioned officer and great drill instructor, according to other drill instructors.

As Platoon 3083's senior drill instructor, Lozano finds himself teaching both recruits and drill instructors, from whom he demands attention to detail and teamwork.

"It's the same with recruits and drill instructors," he said. "The small things



Staff Sgt. Javier Lozano inspects Platoon 3083 before their final uniform inspection. Lozano, who ends his drill instructor duty today, also instructed at Medical Rehabilitation Platoon and Basic Marine Platoon here. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara/Chevron

count. It's what separates the Marine Corps from other Department of Defense services – we care about the little things."

Staff Sgt. Roger A. Taylor, Platoon 3083 drill instructor, sees this day-in and day-out. Taylor is Lozano's right-hand man when it comes to training the platoon.

"He has a strong work ethic and he's proactive," Taylor said. Lozano makes sure things are done completely and correctly the first time without anyone asking him to, he said.

According to Taylor, Lozano displays his work ethic through the time he spends on the job.

"He doesn't need to be here sometimes," said Taylor, whose job is to keep training and teaching the recruits. Lozano supervises, and he works with recruits with personal problems, ensuring training continues uninterrupted.

To help the drill instructors, Lozano eases the recruits by sitting with them and telling them his stories from the operating forces. He speaks reality by printing out war casualty lists as conversation centerpieces.

"They get a break from training and it motivates them to train again," Taylor said. "They are more willing to learn."

Lozano attributes his ability to lead recruits to the year he spent serving in Medical Rehabilitation Platoon and the Basic Marine Platoon here between regular cycles.

"When I was at MRP, it opened my eyes to different things about recruits and their problems," Lozano said. "All of the recruits were broken and had been there a week to six months. You have to see them as people instead of recruits and talk to them more. When I got back (to regular cycles), I had more compassion

for recruits."

His fellow drill instructors agree. "He's more experienced – he has one year on all the other senior drill instructors," said Taylor. "His BMP and MRP experience taught him how to talk to and take care of recruits."

Lozano's skill in working with recruits and drill instructors makes a vital leader within the company, according to fellow drill instructors.

"He tells both drill instructors and recruits how we can do things differently," Taylor said. "He shows us how to multi-task as a team or company, and he works to make the company look good as a whole, making sure nobody is short-handed."

Taking the skills for which he worked hard to attain, Lozano leaves the depot for a radio chief course at Twentynine Palms, Calif., immediately after graduat-

Navy Cross wearer wounded while clearing enemy trench gets standing ovation

Hero, from pg. 1

Marine leading the advance, Perez continuously fired his weapon and helped direct the accurate fire of his fellow Marines.

Under tremendous fire, Perez led a charge into an enemy trench, which he cleared with a grenade. Using an anti-tank rocket, Perez destroyed an enemy machine-gun bunker, enabling his fellow Marines to maneuver to the enemy position and seize it.

Perez continued to fight, sustaining serious gunshot wounds to his torso and shoulder, yet he still directed his squad's fire to destroy the enemy.

The Houston native received the Navy Cross earlier this year at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

After hearing of Perez's heroism, luncheon members gave a standing ovation. As Cortez presented Perez with the Heroes and Heritage Award, Perez simply said he had only done his duty.

"It is strange how I remember that day. When it all



From the podium, Maj. Gen. Christopher Cortez, Marine Corps Recruiting Command commanding general, recognizes Lance Cpl. Joseph Perez, the recipient of the 2004 Latino Heroes and Heritage Award. The award presentation took place recently during the Tribute to Latino Heroes Luncheon on the final day of the 2004 National Council of La Raza Conference in Phoenix. Sgt. Jimmie Perkins/MCRC

started to happen, everything just sped up, and my training just kicked in, it was all automatic," said the 23-year-old Marine. "I do appreciate all of the recognition, but all this is so unexpected."

Having rejoined his unit after recovering from his

wounds, Perez will return to Iraq this fall for the third time in two years.

"I am ready to go," said Perez. "All of the events I have attended since returning have been great, but I will be happy to get back to my unit and back to training."

MIGHTY MIKE



Platoon 3081
COMPANY HONORMAN
Lance Cpl. R. J. Blackwell
Simi Valley, Calif.
Recruited by
Sgt. R. Borrell



Platoon 3077
SERIES HONORMAN
Lance Cpl. R. A. Dixon
Chicago
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. L. R. Ratcliff



Platoon 3078
PLATOON HONORMAN
PFC F. A. Bayonasantos
St. Louis
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. Moore



Platoon 3079
PLATOON HONORMAN
PFC L. M. Vasquez
Beaverton, Ore.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. K. Champion



Platoon 3082
PLATOON HONORMAN
PFC J. A. Quintero
Union Gap, Wash.
Recruited by
Gunnery Sgt. D. Lyman



Platoon 3083
PLATOON HONORMAN
PFC K. L. Howard
Lawton, Okla.
Recruited by
Sgt. R. Bushey



Platoon 3083
HIGH SHOOTER (240)
PFC C. Barton
Loomis, Calif.
Recruited by
Sgt. C. Anderson



Platoon 2081
HIGH PFT (300)
PFC S. M. Wade
Chicago
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. M. Polley



Company M recruits air out after exiting the confidence chamber filled with C5 gas. This training at Camp Pendleton, Calif., familiarizes recruits with the M40 field mask, which is designed to protect against biological and chemical danger. Staff Sgt. Jesse Lora/Chevron

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT & WESTERN RECRUITING REGION
Commanding General
BRIG. GEN. J. M. PAXTON JR.
Sergeant Major
SGT. MAJ. F. E. PULLEY

RECRUIT TRAINING REGIMENT
Commanding Officer
COL. W. M. CALLIHAN
Sergeant Major
SGT. MAJ. M. L. SHEPARD
Regimental Drill Master
GUNNERY SGT. P. DOMINGUEZ JR.
Parade Adjutant
CAPT. Y. K. PARK
Narrator
SGT. T. NELSON

MARINE BAND SAN DIEGO
Band Officer
WARRANT OFFICER E. M. HAYES
Band Master
GUNNERY SGT. B. C. PARADIS

COLOR GUARD
SGT. D. NEEL
SGT. J. JENKINS
PFC A. M. STRONG
PVT. N. O. SCHULTZ

3RD RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION
Commanding Officer
Lt. Col. R. W. Gates
Chaplain
Lt. F. Munoz
Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. S. B. Merkle
Battalion Drill Master
Staff Sgt. B. M. Fuller

Company First Sergeant
1st Sgt. J. M. Gonzales

SERIES 2077
Series Commander
Capt. C. R. Lucas
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Gunnery Sgt. R. A. Mathern

SERIES 2081
Series Commander
Capt. E. J. Grass
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Gunnery Sgt. M. D. Wright

Pvt. B. W. Brunkhardt
Pvt. C. J. Bryant
Pvt. F. E. Camposarambula
PFC L. D. Carlson
PFC L. A. Carranza
Pvt. S. E. Chase
Pvt. J. M. Clark
Pvt. M. S. Clark
Pvt. A. D. Clegg
Pvt. D. C. Cole
PFC B. L. Craven
PFC W. D. Cruz
Pvt. N. V. Dinh
*Lance Cpl. R. A. Dixon

PFC J. C. Dubose
Pvt. A. Esparza
PFC D. J. Fahey
Pvt. R. S. Federico
Pvt. G. D. Felix
PFC D. H. Fleming
Pvt. J. E. Fuentes
*PFC G. G. Garcia
PFC B. C. Giddens
PFC J. R. Gordon
Pvt. J. R. Gordon
Pvt. M. Gorostieta
Pvt. T. C. Grubich
PFC S. A. Haberkorn
Pvt. R. L. Hall
PFC S. A. Hernandez
Pvt. W. A. Jackson
Pvt. A. M. Jacobson
Pvt. E. J. Lopez
Pvt. S. C. Mosley
Pvt. A. J. Pound
Pvt. R. C. Ramirez
PFC C. Trujillo

Sgt. R. E. Alvarez

PFC R. S. Allen
Pvt. H. A. Alvarado
PFC F. A. Bayonasantos
Pvt. T. P. Bellamy
*PFC K. K. Bilui
Pvt. M. J. Blair
Pvt. J. T. Bone
Pvt. M. L. Brentley
Pvt. M. D. Buck
Pvt. R. J. Burgess
Pvt. C. M. Cagle
Pvt. M. A. Castillo
Pvt. S. T. Cleveland
PFC S. M. Diddle
Pvt. J. L. Ferrier
PFC G. L. Fullmer
*PFC H. B. Gallegos
PFC J. A. Halsted
Pvt. J. A. Hampton
Pvt. B. R. Harris
Pvt. N. L. Hefflin
Pvt. J. M. Herman
Pvt. W. C. Horning
Pvt. E. B. Horning
Pvt. S. J. Jarzombek
Pvt. J. L. Jones
Pvt. K. T. Keating

PFC B. J. Kreuger
Pvt. B. W. Lehr
Pvt. B. L. Lepley
Pvt. R. M. Lewis
PFC B. T. Logan
Pvt. J. J. Logue
Pvt. R. W. Prescott
PFC C. T. Radoumis
Pvt. J. B. Raymond
Pvt. G. Rioscornello
Pvt. R. A. Person
PFC J. T. Ross
Pvt. S. G. Scott
Pvt. E. J. Sisson
PFC J. C. Trenary
PFC T. Yang



Pvt. A. J. Aguirre, Platoon 3081, descends the Depot rappel tower. Lance Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr./Chevron

PFC A. J. Ceron
Pvt. D. L. Comey
Pvt. L. R. Cuen
PFC J. E. Delapaz
PFC A. J. Elishia
*PFC S. C. Flood
PFC J. T. Gideon
PFC S. S. Gill
Pvt. M. D. Gonzalez
*PFC J. D. Gurath
PFC E. T. Hansen
Pvt. J. R. Harbor
Pvt. T. A. Harrell
PFC C. Khamphasouk
PFC A. J. Laroitonda
Pvt. J. Morenoaguilera
Pvt. K. Rosasgarcia
PFC J. A. Sanchez
Pvt. L. A. Soria
Pvt. A. G. Suttle IV
Pvt. G. A. Torres Jr.
Pvt. J. R. Trama
Pvt. L. M. Vandervort
*PFC L. M. Vasquezestrada
Pvt. J. Verdusco
PFC S. M. Wade
Pvt. C. J. Wagner
Pvt. J. M. White
Pvt. N. G. White
Pvt. M. L. Yeane
Pvt. J. A. Young
Pvt. A. J. Zundel
Pvt. R. W. Prescott
PFC C. T. Radoumis
Pvt. J. B. Raymond
Pvt. G. Rioscornello
Pvt. R. A. Person
PFC J. T. Ross
Pvt. S. G. Scott
Pvt. E. J. Sisson
PFC J. C. Trenary
PFC T. Yang

Pvt. J. A. Contreras
PFC J. A. Penner
Pvt. J. C. Perez
Pvt. C. A. Perez
PFC C. Perez
*PFC J. A. Quintero
Pvt. A. M. Goodson
PFC Z. Hideo
Pvt. J. R. Reis
Pvt. J. R. Rencher
Pvt. C. A. Richardson
Pvt. W. E. Robinson
Pvt. R. A. Rubio
Pvt. J. T. Rucinski
Pvt. S. R. Rudicill
Pvt. C. S. Sadler
Pvt. C. O. Lee
Pvt. C. N. Loos
Pvt. J. M. Lopezbanuelo
Pvt. M. A. Marsalia
Pvt. D. A. Mason
*PFC C. A. Matlock
Pvt. B. K. Tani
Pvt. E. E. Montano
Pvt. R. Munoz
Pvt. D. F. Ogden
Pvt. M. Polanco
Pvt. J. L. Rivera
Pvt. M. A. Santos
Pvt. S. Sierras
Pvt. K. T. Tan
Pvt. J. N. Tobias
Pvt. A. L. Velloza
PFC M. P. Wason
*PFC A. J. Williams
Pvt. L. Q. Williams
PFC T. Wong

Pvt. M. N. Payne
PFC J. D. Silva
PFC A. C. Soto
Pvt. J. B. Speller
PFC T. A. Stage
*PFC S. D. Stephens
Pvt. I. T. Thomas
Pvt. L. A. Valdez
PFC M. M. Vance
Pvt. J. Velez Jr.
Pvt. J. W. Vinson
Pvt. M. D. Wadley
Pvt. B. B. Webb

*PFC J. J. Siino IV
Pvt. J. D. Silva
PFC A. C. Soto
Pvt. J. B. Speller
PFC T. A. Stage
*PFC S. D. Stephens
Pvt. I. T. Thomas
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Pvt. J. Velez Jr.
Pvt. J. W. Vinson
Pvt. M. D. Wadley
Pvt. B. B. Webb

Staff Sgt. K. L. Jones

Pvt. A. E. Baird
*PFC C. J. Barton
PFC C. R. Buchert
Pvt. A. N. Gutierrez
Pvt. J. J. Harris
Pvt. P. R. Hemphill
Pvt. J. J. Henderson
Pvt. N. A. Henry
PFC S. M. Hernandez
Pvt. S. R. Hess
Pvt. M. L. Hoffrage
PFC D. K. Horrell
*PFC K. L. Howard
Pvt. M. C. Howell
PFC C. A. Ingram
PFC R. R. Irving
Pvt. J. P. Irwin

Pvt. D. J. Jensen
Pvt. D. D. Johnston
Pvt. J. D. Kelley
Pvt. J. A. Kosler
PFC M. Lara
Pvt. I. Larios
PFC C. C. Lawson
Pvt. J. P. Leiva
Pvt. B. J. Lewis
Pvt. L. Manzo
PFC B. E. Marquass
PFC C. P. Martin
Pvt. R. T. Martin
PFC G. Martinez
PFC P. Martinez
Pvt. J. R. McBride
PFC C. A. Ingram
PFC R. R. Irving
Pvt. J. P. Irwin

PFC J. R. Morales
*PFC C. A. Morgan
Pvt. J. L. Nelson
PFC V. P. Nguyen
Pvt. M. J. Orozco
Pvt. E. Orozco
PFC R. W. Osborne
*PFC M. S. Ramos
Pvt. J. C. Viator
*PFC T. W. Wright

*denotes
meritorious
promotion

COMPANY CURIOSITIES Here's how men from Mike Company answered Chevron's random questions about their boot camp experiences:

Q:- What was your favorite competitive event?



Pvt. Christopher A. Richardson
Millstadt, Ill.

A:- Rifle range. Because shooting the M-16 was a way of letting loose.

Q:- How did you do on the rifle range?



Pvt. John Tobias
Rockford, Ill.

A:- I shot a 238 and got high shooter for my platoon. My goal was to make company high shooter.

Q:- What's the first thing you'll do when you get home?



PFC Tommy Wong
Alhambra, Calif.

A:- Pig out.

Q:- What was the worst day in boot camp?



Pvt. Luis Manzo
La Puente, Calif.

A:- When I found out my boots weren't mine.

Q:- What's your job going to be?



Pvt. Manuel J. Orozco
San Jose, Calif.

A:- Field radio operator. It got me here faster. I wanted to be a cook.



Sgt. Ralph Fernandez in the background signals out for his team after Recruiters School third baseman Gunnery Sgt. Antonio Manzano attempted to tag a sliding 3rd Battalion base runner. The runner was safe.

Big Blue old-schooled 7-3



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CPL. SHAWN M. TOUSSAINT
Chevron staff

Recruiters School reigned as the undefeated kings of the diamond in the Commanding General's Cup intramural softball league at Beeson Field.

After beating 3rd Recruit Training Bn.'s Big Blue 7-3 in the championship game here Tuesday, the

"old men" of Recruiters School were crowned champions and presented with the season trophy.

Coming into the season with an average age of 41 years, some teams doubted Recruiters School's ability to win the championship, let alone think they could go undefeated through seven weeks of play.

"It's awesome," said Recruiters School coach Gunnery Sgt. Antonio Manzano about his team's undefeated season. "It proves that experience can outweigh youth."

Manzano said that the keys to Recruiters School's unblemished record were smart batting, team defense, and outstanding pitching.

With the softball season concluded, here is what the final season standings and CG's cup standings look like up to this point.



Staff Sgt. Reynaldo A. Cruz closes out the top of the fifth inning with a toss to second baseman Gunnery Sgt. Dwight Maloy.



Gunnery Sgt. Antonio Manzano singled for Recruiters School on this at-bat in the top of the fourth inning.



Sgt. Mauricio Ramirez ties the game on this base hit grounder. Ramirez started a three-run rally in the bottom of the sixth.

SOFTBALL SHOWINGS	
1st	RECRUITERS SCHOOL
2nd	3RD BATTALION
3rd	PROVOST MARSHAL OFFICE

UNDEFEATED

THE ROSTER

Lt. Col. Scott Wood
Master Gunnery Sgt. Dan Bennett
Master Gunnery Sgt. Larry Jones
Master Sgt. Harry Griser
Master Sgt. Jerry Juarez
Master Sgt. Keith Kinney
Master Sgt. David Maristch
Master Sgt. Kevin Williams

Gunnery Sgt. Steve Flak
Gunnery Sgt. Mike Magro
Gunnery Sgt. Antonio Manzano
Gunnery Sgt. Randy Merritt
Sgt. Raymond Diaz
Sgt. Ralph Fernandez
Cpl. Antonio Colecio
Ken Seaman